



# Department of Justice

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Cheyenne, Wyoming** - A former employee and a former contractor of Marathon Oil Company were convicted on March 30, 2010 in U.S. District Court of receiving kickbacks and obtaining approximately \$5,000,000 in a scheme to defraud Marathon Oil Company. BRETT MATHEW LATTIN, 30, and MARK ALAN MCGREGOR, 48, both of Sheridan, Wyoming, entered guilty pleas before United States Magistrate Judge R. Michael Shickich to an information charging them with conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud.

From approximately November 2006 through October 2007, during which time LATTIN was employed as a contract supervisor for Marathon Oil Company, LATTIN devised a scheme to defraud his employer by steering contracts to MCGREGOR; including, contracts for the repair of leaking earthen reservoirs used to contain water from coal bed methane gas production in Sheridan County, Wyoming. LATTIN used his position to approve payments to MCGREGOR totaling approximately \$5,000,000, in exchange for MCGREGOR'S kicking back to LATTIN approximately \$600,000 of that amount. Of the \$5,000,000, LATTIN approved payments to MCGREGOR in the amount of \$2,450,000 for work not performed as required to repair the earthen reservoirs.

Sentencing is scheduled for June 8, 2010, before United States District Court Judge Alan B. Johnson. LATTIN and MCGREGOR face up to 20 years' imprisonment, to be followed by up to three years of supervised release, a fine and payment of restitution up to \$2,450,000.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Postal Inspection Service.

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